

October 12, 2017

Chairman Ajit Pai
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner Brendan Carr
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
c/o Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

OCT 12 2017

FCC Mailroom

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Re: ET Docket No. 14-165 and GN Docket Nos. 12-268 and 14-166 Via Electronic Filing

Dear Chairman Pai, Commissioner Clyburn, Commissioner O'Rielly, Commissioner Carr, Commissioner Rosenworcel, and Ms. Dortch,

On behalf of the Lied Center for Performing Arts, located in Lincoln, Nebraska, that provides approximately 224 performances per year to 150,000 audience members and education programs to 30,000 students, I write with concern about available spectrum and protection for our wireless microphones and backstage communications devices. The Lied's mission is to Education, Inspire and Entertain the people of Nebraska through the performing arts. We are a leader in Nebraska and the Plains, standing at the center of achievement, creativity, imagination, celebration, learning, discover and diversity in the arts.

We strongly support the Commission's proposal to expand Part 74 license eligibility to include persons and organizations that can demonstrate the need for professional, high-quality audio and have the capability of providing it through conscientious use of wireless microphones. We support and endorse the Comments filed in these dockets by The Performing Arts Wireless Microphone Working Group.

Professional performing arts organizations present thousands of performances each year, and wireless microphones are essential to producing high-quality performances while mitigating significant public safety concerns. Professional wireless capability, with successful interference protection, is essential to our sector.

The Lied Center for Performing Arts uses microphones, in-ear communications, and equipment controlling devices. In a typical performance or presentation, we use between 2-36 units and we use wireless devices in ALL of our performances.

Lied uses the following bands and channels:

- Low UHF (channels 14-36, 470 to 608 MHz)
- High UHF (channels 38-51, the 600 MHz band, 614 MHz to 698 MHz)

Our microphones are able to tune to more than one frequency and the tuning ability is approximately 100MHz. We own and rent our equipment and have an experienced audio technician on staff, who has over 20 years of experience as a professional audio engineer.

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I would urge the Commission to grant a Part 74 license if an applicant can provide certification of:

- A mission statement of providing performing arts to the public;
- A history of professional-quality wireless audio presentations to audiences without interference;
- Technical guidance and frequency coordination by qualified professionals (active in audio engineering who have academic degrees or equivalent professional experience and who are familiar with radio-frequency coordination);
- A commitment to register for protection only the frequencies, times, and locations actually needed; and
- A practice of keeping logs of all wireless microphone uses for all performances.

Thank you to the Commission for seeking Public Comment on this issue. It is very important to the Lied Center for Performing Arts to have access to reliably available spectrum including interference protection. The cost to replace the Lied's sound equipment would be a great burden on our organization, especially in a climate of tight budgets within our university system.

The Lied Center is the region's premier performing arts venue and presents artists and performances of distinction. We engage people and communities from across Nebraska with exceptional experiences, as well as first-hand engagement for our state's youth and college students. We know the transformative power of the arts.

I respectfully endorse the Commission's proposal to expand Part 74 LPAS rules to accommodate performing arts organizations and educational institutions that use fewer than 50 wireless microphones. The proposal is a much-needed solution that benefits the arts community and the public as well as the many new and emerging unlicensed white space technologies.

Sincerely,



William Stephan, CFE
Executive Director
Lied Center for Performing Arts



Dan Stratman
Director of Production and Facilities
Lied Center for Performing Arts